

Council of Regions Report Salmon Recovery Funding Board

December 10, 2009

Prepared and submitted by COR representative, Steve Martin

RCO Policies and Procedures:

COR members participated in an RCO conference call on November 18 to provide review and input on Manual 18 updates and the Lead Entity – Regional Organizations manual. Further review and comments will occur in December in advance of the January deadline. An update of the November meeting will be presented by RCO staff at the December 10 SRFB meeting.

Monitoring Forum:

COR representation at the next Monitoring Forum is being coordinated.

Letter to Congresswoman Murray Reinforcing Importance of PCSRF Funding:

COR directors submitted a letter to Congresswoman Murray urging support for the PCSRF appropriation. We understand that the Senate has passed legislation that includes an appropriation of \$80 million for the PCSRF account. The House version of the bill does not include a PCSRF appropriation. A House/Senate conference committee will be convened to resolve the differences in the two bills. COR is considering a letter to the Washington House delegation urging support of the Senate appropriation.

Letter to the Honorable Christine Gregoire

COR directors submitted a letter to the Honorable Christine Gregoire in which we shared our initial thoughts and recommendations on her initiative to “reform the naturals” – the letter is attached to this report. As of the writing of this report there has been no response to the letter.

Other:

Columbia basin update:

Columbia basin organizations also continue to participate in the Columbia Basin Coordinated Anadromous Fish Monitoring facilitated workshop process. This process, involving CBFWA, BPA, NOAA, NPCC, and northwest tribes and state fisheries agencies, is working to develop a Columbia Basin monitoring framework and to identify and rank monitoring needs and initiatives in the basin based on requirements under the FCRPS BiOp, addressing VSP needs, and/or providing project effectiveness information.